

TRANSFORM NEWSLETTER



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Reflections from a Master Trainer

"In Ethiopia, I would like to see TRANSFORM as one of the core trainings the government values within its social protection system. Ethiopia, has one of Africa's largest social assistance programme, the 'Productive Safety Net Programme. (PSNP)' My vision is for TRANSFORM to be taken by the PSNP management and implementers, not only focusing on the delivery but the management, design and eligibility."

Ethiopian Master Trainer

*during Transform Review Meeting,
Zambia, January 2019*

Transform Review Meeting in Zambia, January 2019

Message from the Coordination hub

What an active first quarter it has been as TRANSFORM continues to fight for high quality social protection capacity building and leadership across the continent! Since we began our TRANSFORM journey almost 1.000 social protection practitioners have been trained and the goal is to make sure that everyone that works in the sector can have access to training so that we can create more effective and inclusive systems that leave no-one behind! In the first three months 13 new training applications were held! We have gone to new countries such as Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Sudan, as well as testing our in-depth Management Information Systems application both in Zanzibar and Zambia, perfecting it and strengthening the capacity of our Master Trainers to deliver. The 3rd run of E-TRANSFORM was hugely popular, with 50 participants and over 80 still on the waiting list.

We have also started preparing content for Shock Responsive Social Protection as well as advancing with the development of the new in-depth Modules on Financing and on Governance & Coordination. TRANSFORM is exploring strategic partnerships with the WFP and UN Women has initiated dialogues with various countries such as Lesotho, Eswatini, Namibia, Mozambique, Angola, Ghana, Gambia, Senegal and South Africa on how to introduce or roll-out TRANSFORM, and the rest of the year looks promising in terms of strengthening the initiatives coverage.

In this quarter the European Union-Social Protection Systems programme has come to an end. It has been a key pillar in the development of TRANSFORM and we give thanks to the European Union, the OECD and in particular the Government of Finland for the support that they have given financially and technically now that TRANSFORM enters a more mature phase of its existence. We give continued thanks to the crucial support of Irish Aid to the Coordination Hub, allowing us to keep promoting TRANSFORM and strengthening its content and community of Master Trainers, as well as all our in-country partners and donors that fund applications and content development.

We further express gratitude to the 40-plus Master Trainers spread across Africa for their passion and engagement, as well as the committed members of the TRANSFORM Advisory Board that tirelessly contribute with their energy and ideas. Finally we express our thanks to our partner governments and the African Union for continuing to support this initiative in seeking to bring quality capacity building and stimulating leadership amongst its member states.

TRANSFORM Results so Far

36 trainings in **10** countries & online;

930 participants

55% Male and **45%** Female

61% rate it as Excellent, **36%** as Good

40 English and Portuguese Master trainers from **13** countries in Africa;





TRANSFORM Application for Policy Makers. Mutare , Zimbabwe. February, 2019

What's New!

The 8 Modules have been translated to Arabic with support of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) and ILO in Egypt.

Also by the 3rd quarter it is expected that TRANSFORM will have a new Module on **Shock Responsive Social Protection**. Built in partnership with the WFP, UNICEF and ILO in Malawi, this course will look at how SP systems can be more resilient, and how they can be brought to bear in response to shocks and disasters. Besides a full in-depth course, this work will also develop a half-day optional add-on to the normal 5-day curriculum.

The University of Zambia, with support of the Government of Finland and the EU-SPS programme, adapted the TRANSFORM curriculum to inform the curriculum for a new Bachelor and Masters programme in Social Protection. UNZA is busy having the curriculum approved by the Government so it can offer it to students, hopefully starting in 2020.

TRANSFORM engagement on gender

In 2018 the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) selected "Social Protection Systems for Gender Equality" as the priority theme of its session in March, 2019. UN-Women found it necessary to provide Social Protection related training to the UN-Women professionals in its African country and regional offices in Africa. TRANSFORM was the natural choice of training provider for UN-Women Africa, and EU-SPS/Finland agreed to provide the necessary funding. The first UN-Women TRANSFORM Social Protection Training Course was held in Nakuru, Kenya in November, 2018.

This training strengthened the capacity of UN-Women staff to organize national consultative meetings in preparation of the UN-CSW, on the topic of social protection systems for gender equality. It also helped UN-Women to support the African Union Commission in the preparations for the Africa 'Pre-CSW' meeting in Cairo in February-2019, where common African positions for CSW were discussed and agreed upon.

As a next step UN-Women launched a mapping study on 'Innovative Approaches for Providing Social Protection for African Women Working in the Informal Sector'. The key expert preparing this study was Zambian TRANSFORM Master Trainer, Ms. Mutale Wakunuma. The results of and lessons learned from the CSW were then brought together at an African Union/UN-Women 'Post-CSW' meeting in Addis Ababa on 31 March 2019, just a day before the African Union Ministerial Conference of ministers in charge of social protection (1-5 April, 2019), with TRANSFORM Master Trainers as facilitator and EU-SPS/Finland as sponsor. This helped UN-Women Africa, AU-Commission Department of Social Affairs and TRANSFORM Master Trainers to make an effective intervention to the AU Conference of Ministers and Senior Experts, where TRANSFORM experiences and the outcomes from the UN Commission on the Status of Women were presented to African Governments and recorded in the Outcome document of the Ministerial Conference.

Global Visibility in 2019

In the past 4 months, TRANSFORM continues to gain strong visibility, these has been through discussions and presentations in a number of regional and global events. Some examples include:

- African Union/United Nations Women Cairo Meeting on African Common Position for the Status of Women, February, 2019
- Global conferences on Universal Social Protection and Universal Child Grants, Geneva, February, 2019
- United Nations Commission on Social Development, New York City, February 2019.
- African Union—European Union Experts meeting, Addis, February 2019.
- United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, New York City, March 2019.
- United Nations Women/African Union 'Post-CSW' Expert meeting, Addis Ababa 31 March, 2019
- African Union Conference of Ministers of Social Development and Labour ('Specialized Technical Commission on Social Development, Labour and Employment), Addis Ababa, April, 2019



Transform District Application. Mpongwe, Zambia, March 2019

I AM TRANSFORMED: Voices from the Districts

The ILO in collaboration with UNICEF has been supporting the government in an initiative to pilot single windows service centers at district level. This initiative was coupled with capacity building for officers at district level to enhance critical thinking and understanding on development of a comprehensive and well-coordinated social protection system. Below are the voices that emerged during and after the district trainings:

"Now I can appreciate the SCT program, previously I thought giving cash to people was not good especially in urban areas, I assumed they will squander it by buying alcohol."

A participant from Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock

"The training will improve my whistle blowing roles and responsibilities."

A participant from a Media Organization

"The things I have been doing wrong, now I can go and work on improving."

A participant from Ministry of Community Development and Social Services

"First day I was lost, but now I know I can apply concepts in my own work."

A participant from Ministry of Health

Content Adaptations

In the 1st Quarter of 2019 TRANSFORM has been perfecting the 5-day District Application. In Zambia it has been used to support the roll-out of the new Single Windows Initiative and Integrated Framework for Social Protection at decentralized level, providing district stakeholders from multiple sectors with a solid basis to strengthen coordinated service delivery.

The 3-day Management Information Systems in-depth course has also been strengthened, with two tests taking place in Zanzibar and in Siavonga, Zambia, involving many of the members of the technical committee for developing the new Zambian Integrated Social Protection Information System. The training in Siavonga also tested a 4th-day post-training roadmap building workshop, permitting participants that now were on more equal technical footing to reflect on the next steps in the short and medium term.

There is substantial appetite for the Governance and Coordination 3-day in-depth course in final stages of development and will be piloted in Pretoria in May. Work has started on the Financing and Financial Management course, and this is expected to be completed and tested by the early 3rd quarter of 2019.

The Monitoring and Evaluation, and Selection and Identification in-depth courses are completed and opportunities are being sought to pilot these renewed versions.

Malawi is busy doing a national roll-out of TRANSFORM, for which it will adapt some of the course content to its own context to better highlight its own experiences and legal framework, prior to rolling out across all districts in the country with support of GIZ, UNICEF, ILO, WFP, DFID and the European Union.

Contact Us/ Know More

- For information about TRANSFORM contact the secretariat via email at: canonge@ilo.org
- Visit us on the web at: <http://socialprotection.org/institutions/transform>
- Watch Video on TRANSFORM's methodology and approach on: <https://youtu.be/m11GaFF3EUc>

TRANSFORM—Building Social Protection Floors in Africa!

What is TRANSFORM?

WHAT IS TRANSFORM?

TRANSFORM is an innovative learning package on the administration of national social protection floors in Africa. It encompasses learning materials and methods for adult learning, to help decision makers and practitioners take ownership in building national social protection systems through continuous learning and reflective practice.

WHY TRANSFORM?

Transforming social protection systems requires more than absorbing pre-fabricated knowledge, to fill heads with any given content. Learning requires the ability to grapple with complexity of social and human elements in specific contexts, to stimulate creativity and innovation to solve emerging new problems, to appreciate diversity and uniqueness of each situation, to be involved and take ownership in change and transformation – elements which are at least as important as the factual knowledge itself. This learning package aims at just that: Transform!

OBJECTIVES OF TRANSFORM

To build critical thinking and capacities of policy makers and practitioners at national and decentralized levels to improve the design, governance and administration of social protection systems.

TARGET GROUPS

TRANSFORM is targeted at practitioners in the field of social protection looking to enrich their knowledge base and embark in a leadership and transformation process. The package aims at three different “user groups”: Political level - political decision making, Senior technical - strategic level, Mid-/lower technical operational level.

An inter-agency initiative promoted by



Funded by

